

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 23, please amend paragraph [062] as follows:

[062] In accordance with the present invention, stereo separation at low frequencies can be improved by selectively adjusting the SP GAIN signal 321, using a variety of techniques such as described herein. In one embodiment, a clamp or saturator is used in the wideband or spectral gain feedback path to prevent the gain control signal from going below a minimum value. In another embodiment, a minor or adjustable offset is added to the spectral gain only if the spectral gain is below a certain threshold or comparison point. With this offset, stereo separation is improved for most frequencies. However, minor stereo separation jitter appears at the frequencies where the spectral gain oscillates about the maximum comparison point. Such jitter can be in terms of minor amplitude and phase variation for a single frequency. An alternative embodiment of the present invention helps control the jitter in the separation by rolling off or tapering the offset value when the spectral gain is above a maximum comparison point. Tapering the offset addresses the situation where the comparator is injecting a value of spectral gain that is noisy and that fluctuates about a comparison point for a single tone going through the compressor. Techniques for adjusting the spectral gain (SP GAIN 321) and/or the wideband gain signal (WB GAIN 341) can be implemented as described in the co-pending U.S. patent application entitled "Mechanism For Using Clamping And Offset Techniques To Adjust The Spectral And Wideband Gains In The Feedback Loops Of A BTSC Encoder," [filed _____] having Application Number 10/784,690 and filing date of 02/23/2004; now U.S. Patent 7,277,860, and assigned to Broadcom Corporation, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety to provide detailed information about the control signal adjustment techniques.